PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for frequency and channel assignment for sectors in a spread spectrum communications system, the method comprising:

modulating a message on a first synchronization channel transmitted on at least one first frequency from at least one sector;

modifying the message to generate a single modified message beginning with a Protocol Revision (P REV) field, including a CDMA Frequency Assignment (CDMA FREQ) field, and ending with an Extended CDMA Frequency Assignment (EXT CDMA FREQ) field, wherein the CDMA Frequency Assignment (CDMA FREQ) field is immediately before and adjacent to the Extended CDMA Frequency Assignment (EXT CDMA FREQ) field; and

modulating the single modified message on a second synchronization channel transmitted on at least one second frequency from the at least one sector.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said modulating a message on a first synchronization channel transmitted on at least one first frequency from the at least one sector comprises:

modulating a Sync Channel Message on a first synchronization channel transmitted on at least one first frequency from the at least one sector.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said modulating the modified message on a second synchronization channel transmitted on at least one second frequency from the at least one sector comprises:

modulating the modified Sync Channel Message on a second synchronization channel transmitted on at least one second frequency from the at least one sector.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said modulating the modified message on a second synchronization channel transmitted on at least one second frequency from the at least one sector comprises:

deleting at least one field from the message.

5 – 16. (Canceled)

17. (New) A method for frequency and channel assignment for sectors in a spread spectrum communications system, the method comprising:

modulating a message on a first synchronization channel transmitted on at least one first frequency from at least one sector;

modifying the message to generate a single modified message, the single modified message consisting of:

a P REV (Protocol Revision) field,

a MIN P REV field,

a SID field,

a NID field,

a PILOT PN field,

a LC STATE field,

a SYS TIME field,

a LP SEC field,

a LTM OFF field,

a DAYLT field,

a PRAT field,

a CDMA FREQ (CDMA Frequency Assignment) field, and

a EXT CDMA FREQ (Extended CDMA Frequency Assignment) field; and

modulating the single modified message on a second synchronization channel transmitted on at least one second frequency from the at least one sector.

18. (New) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein:

the CDMA FREQ field consists of eleven bits; and

the EXT CDMA FREQ field consists of eleven bits.

19. (New) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein said modulating the modified message on a second synchronization channel transmitted on at least one second frequency from the at least one sector comprises:

deleting at least one field, occurring after the EXT CDMA FREQ field, from the message.

20. (New) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the CDMA FREQ field is adjacent to the EXT CDMA FREQ field.